

**REMARKS**

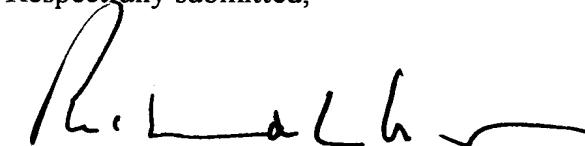
This Preliminary Amendment cancels Claims 1-4 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE96/00457, and adds new Claims 5-8. The new claims conform to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not add new matter.

The substitute specification and the amendments to the abstract are to conform the specification and abstract to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules. The substitute specification and the amendments to the abstract do not add new matter to the application.

The underlying PCT application includes a Search Report dated August 2, 1996 (copy included) and a Provisional International Examination Report dated February 5, 1997 (copy of translated Annex included).

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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